

DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY RUH BATH

WHEN TO SUSPECT A PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY

- Patients presenting with any of the following:
 - Recurrent invasive infection
 - Pneumonia, sinusitis, otitis, abscess etc
 - Infants failing to thrive with unusual infections, persistent diarrhoea, rashes
 - Opportunist infection
 - Failure to respond as expected to anti-microbial therapy
 - Recurrent skin infection, poor wound healing, periodontitis
 - Recurrent Neisserial infection
 - Family history of inherited immune deficiency
 - Syndrome associated with primary immune deficiency
- Primary immune deficiency uncommon
- Secondary immune deficiency far more frequent e.g.
 - Immunosuppressive therapy
 - Infection
 - Haematological disease
 - Leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma
 - Bone Marrow Transplant
 - Asplenia
 - Chronic Renal Failure
 - Diabetes Mellitus
 - etc
- Presentation will be determined by specific type of defect
- Early diagnosis essential to limit morbidity / mortality

- Clinical advice available
 - Have low threshold for asking
 - Well recognised diagnostic delay with adult immune deficiencies